## Traversal of Restriction Requirement

Applicant respectfully traverses the Restriction Requirement set forth in Office Communication of May 30, 2007 in the above-identified matter.

More specifically, Applicant traverses the Restriction on the grounds that the inventions are independent or distinct and there would be serious burden on the Examiner if the restriction is not required because the inventions have acquired a separate status in the art due to their recognized divergent subject matter.

According to the Restriction Requirement, Species I, II, III, and IV are independent and distinct from each other. Contrary to the assertion in the Restriction Requirement, under the disclosure of the present application, the Species are connected in design, operation, and effect, and only differ from one another in that they each provide an alternative embodiment for controlling a focus lens of a camera system. While each of the Species are directed to alternative embodiments, they are all seen to include the same underlying characterized feature of a camera system with a relay unit have an auto-focus/manual-focus switching signal input means for switching between whether to control a focus lens with auto-focus control or manual-focus control on a remote control unit.

Given that Species I, II, III, and IV include the same underlying characterized feature of the present invention, Applicant believes that the present application does not contain divergent subject matter, and that it would not be unduly burdensome for the Examiner if the restriction were not required.

# CONCLUSION

Applicant's undersigned attorney may be reached at our Irvine, California office at (949) 932-3329. All correspondences should continue to be directed to our below-listed address.

Respectfully submitted

Date: /June 26, 2007/

/Sivon Kalminov/
Sivon Kalminov
Attorney for Applicant
Registration No: 40,042

CANON U.S.A., INC.
INTELLECTUAL PROPERTY DIVISION
15975 Alton Parkway
Irvine, CA. 92618
Tel: (949) 932-3329
Fax: (949) 932-3560